## Message Text

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15

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ADP-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 SCI-06 EB-11 OMB-01 SCEM-02

TRSE-00 RSR-01 /146 W

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P R 281025 Z JUN 73
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2924
INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

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E. O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ENRG ETRN IS SY LE

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

SUBJ: TAPLINE BREAK IN ISRAELI- HELD GOLAN HEIGHTS

SUMMARY: SERIOUS BUT APPARENTLY ACCIDENTAL TAPLINE BREAK IN ISRAELI- HELD GOLAN HEIGHTS CLOSED PIPELINE MID- DAY JUNE 27. HOPE RESUME PUMPING JUNE 30. THREE GOVERNMENTS AND UN INFORMED, ASKED NOT TO PUBLICIZE.

1. TRANS- ARABIAN PIPELINE (TAPLINE) TODAY REPORTED SERIOUS BUT APPARENTLY ACCIDENTAL BREAK IN PIPELINE A FEW KILOMETERS FROM CEASEFIRE LINE IN ISRAELI- HELD GOLAN HEIGHTS. BREAK OCCURED ABOUT 1300-1400 LOCAL JUNE 27, BELIEVED CAUSED BY LARGE BULLDOZER OF CONTRACTOR TO ISRAELI ARMY. TAPLINE BELIEVES BREAK ACCIDENTAL BUT EXPECTS REPORT FROM ITS REPAIR SUPERVISOR TOMORROW OR NEXT DAY. TAPLINE USING ISRAELI CONTRACTOR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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## FOR REPAIRS.

- 2. BREAK CLOSED PIPELINE, WHICH WAS OPERATING AT CAPACITY, BUT TAPLINE HOPES TO RESUME PUMPING JUNE 30 AND ANTI-CIPATES NO UNUSUAL PROBLEMS. SIDON EXPORT TERMINAL HAS STOCKS OF 100,000 TONS, NO SHIPS SCHEDULED TODAY. ASIDE FROM CAUSING RESCHEDULING SOME TANKERS, SHUTDOWN SHOULD CAUSE NO ILL EFFECTS IF LINE REOPENS JUNE 30.
- 3. TAPLINE HAS BRIEFED AUTHORITIES OF ISRAEL, SYRIA, LEBANON AND UN AND ASKED THAT BREAK BE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL TO PRECLUDE DISTORTION.
- 4. BREAK CAUSED CONSIDERABLE SPILLAGE BUT TAPLINE DOUBTS SERIOUS POLLUTION WILL RESULT. AREA DRAINS TOWARD SYRIAN SIDE BUT IS UNINHABITED AND DRY THIS SEASON. HOUGHTON

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<sup>\*\*\*</sup> Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> Current Classification \*\*\* LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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To: DHAHRAŃ JIDDA **KUWAIT** LONDON NEA

SECSTATE WASHDC

TEL AVIV

TRIPOLI Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005